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## **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

### **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

Solicitation for Applications for Advisory Councils Established Pursuant to the National Marine Sanctuaries Act and Executive Orders

**AGENCY:** Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS), National Ocean Service (NOS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce (DOC).

**ACTION:** Notice of Solicitation.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that ONMS will solicit applications to fill seats on its 13 national marine sanctuary advisory councils and the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve Advisory Council (advisory councils), under the National Marine Sanctuaries Act and the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve Executive Order, respectively. Vacant seats, including positions (i.e., primary and alternate), for each of the advisory councils will be advertised differently at each site in accordance with the information provided in this notice. This notice contains webpage links and contact information for each site, as well as additional resources on advisory council vacancies and the application process.

**DATES:** Please visit individual site webpages, or reach out to a site as identified in this notice's Supplementary Information section on Contact Information for Each Site, regarding the timing

and advertisement of vacant seats, including positions (i.e., primary or alternate), for each of the advisory councils.

Applications will only be accepted in response to current, open vacancies and in accordance with the deadlines and instructions included on each site's website.

**ADDRESSES:** Vacancies and applications are specific to each site's advisory council. As such, questions about a specific council or vacancy, including applications, should be directed to a site. Contact Information for Each Site is contained in the Supplementary Information section.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information on a particular advisory council or available seats, please contact the site as identified in this notice's Supplementary Information section on Contact Information for Each Site, below. For general inquiries related to this notice or ONMS advisory councils established pursuant to the National Marine Sanctuaries Act or Executive Order 13178, contact Kate Spidalieri, National Advisory Council Specialist (Kate.Spidalieri@noaa.gov; 240-533-0679).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

Section 315 of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act (NMSA) (16 U.S.C. § 1445A) allows the Secretary of Commerce to establish advisory councils to advise and make recommendations regarding the designation and management of national marine sanctuaries. Executive Order 13178 similarly established a Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve Council pursuant to the NMSA for the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve. In this Supplementary

Information section, NOAA provides details regarding the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, the role of advisory councils, and contact information for each site.

### **Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS)**

ONMS serves as the trustee for a network of underwater parks encompassing more than 600,000 square miles of marine and Great Lakes waters from Washington state to the Florida Keys, and from Lake Huron to American Samoa. The network includes a system of 13 national marine sanctuaries and Papahānaumokuākea and Rose Atoll marine national monuments. National marine sanctuaries protect our nation's most vital coastal and marine natural and cultural resources, and through active research, management, and public engagement, sustain healthy environments that are the foundation for thriving communities and stable economies.

One of the many ways ONMS ensures public participation in the designation and management of national marine sanctuaries is through the formation of advisory councils. Advisory councils are community-based advisory groups established to provide advice and recommendations to ONMS on issues including management, science, service, and stewardship; and to serve as liaisons between their constituents in the community and the site. Additional information on ONMS and its advisory councils can be found at <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov>.

### **Advisory Council Membership**

Under Section 315 of the NMSA, advisory council members may be appointed from among: (1.) persons employed by federal or state agencies with expertise in management of natural resources; (2.) members of relevant regional fishery management councils; and (3.) representatives of local user groups, conservation and other public interest organizations,

scientific organizations, educational organizations, or others interested in the protection and multiple use management of sanctuary resources. For the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve Advisory Council, Executive Order 13178 Section 5(f) specifically identifies member and representative categories.

The charter for each advisory council defines the number and type of seats and positions on the council; however, as a general matter, available seats could include: conservation, education, research, fishing, whale watching, diving and other recreational activities, boating and shipping, tourism, harbors and ports, maritime business, agriculture, maritime heritage, and citizen-at-large.

For each of the 14 advisory councils, applicants are chosen based upon their particular expertise and experience in relation to the seat for which they are applying; community and professional affiliations; views regarding the protection and management of marine or Great Lakes resources; and possibly the length of residence in the area affected by the site. Applicants chosen as members or alternates should expect to serve two or three-year terms, pursuant to the charter of the specific national marine sanctuary advisory council or Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve Advisory Council.

More information on advisory council membership and processes, and materials related to the purpose, policies, and operational requirements for advisory councils can be found in the charter for a particular advisory council

([http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/management/ac/council\\_charters.html](http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/management/ac/council_charters.html)) and the *National Marine*

*Sanctuary Advisory Council Implementation Handbook*

(<http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/management/ac/acref.html>).

**Contact Information for Each Site:**

- Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council: Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, University of California, Santa Barbara, Ocean Science Education Building 514, MC 6155, Santa Barbara, CA 93106; 805-893-6437;  
[http://channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/council\\_news.html](http://channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/council_news.html).
- Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council: Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary, P.O. Box 159, Olema, CA 94950; 415-464-5260;  
<http://cordellbank.noaa.gov/council/applicants.html>.
- Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council: Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, 33 East Quay Road, Key West, FL 33040; 305-809-4700;  
<http://floridakeys.noaa.gov/sac/apps.html>.
- Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council: Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary, 4700 Avenue U, Building 216, Galveston, TX 77551; 409-621-5151; <http://flowergarden.noaa.gov/advisorycouncil/recruitment.html>.

- Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council: Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary, 10 Ocean Science Circle, Savannah, GA 31411; 912-598-2345; [http://graysreef.noaa.gov/management/sac/council\\_news.html](http://graysreef.noaa.gov/management/sac/council_news.html).
- Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council: Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, 991 Marine Drive, The Presidio, San Francisco, CA 94129; 415-561-6622; [http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/sac\\_recruitment.html](http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/sac_recruitment.html).
- Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council: Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary, NOAA Inouye Regional Center, NOS/ONMS/HHWNMS, 1845 Wasp Boulevard, Building 176, Honolulu, HI 96818; 808-879-2818; [http://hawaiihumpbackwhale.noaa.gov/council/council\\_app\\_accepting.html](http://hawaiihumpbackwhale.noaa.gov/council/council_app_accepting.html).
- *Monitor* National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council: *Monitor* National Marine Sanctuary, 100 Museum Drive, Newport News, VA 23606; 757-599-3122; <http://monitor.noaa.gov/advisory/news.html>.
- Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council: Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, 99 Pacific Street, Building 455A, Monterey, CA 93940; 831-647-4201; <http://montereybay.noaa.gov/sac/recruit.html>.

- National Marine Sanctuary of American Samoa Advisory Council: National Marine Sanctuary of American Samoa, Tauese P.F. Sunia Ocean Center, P.O. Box 4318, Pago Pago, AS 96799; 684-633-6500; <http://americansamoa.noaa.gov/council/recruitment>.
- Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve Advisory Council: NOAA Inouye Regional Center, NOS/ONMS/PMNM, 1845 Wasp Boulevard, Building 176, Honolulu, HI 96818; 808-725-5800; <http://www.papahanaumokuakea.gov/new-about/council/apply/>.
- Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council: Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary, 115 East Railroad Avenue, Suite 301, Port Angeles, WA 98362; 360-457-6622; <http://olympiccoast.noaa.gov/involved/sac/recruitment.html>.
- Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council: Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary, 175 Edward Foster Road, Scituate, MA 02066; 781-545-8026; <http://stellwagen.noaa.gov/management/sac/recruitment.html>.

- Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council: Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary, 500 West Fletcher Street, Alpena, MI 49707; 989-356-8805; [http://thunderbay.noaa.gov/management/advisory\\_council\\_recruitment.html](http://thunderbay.noaa.gov/management/advisory_council_recruitment.html).

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1431 *et seq.*

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John Armor,  
Director, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries,  
National Ocean Service,  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

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